

Continuation-in-Part of Application Serial No. 09/781,665 filed February 12, 2001; copending Application Serial No. 09/780,027 filed February 9, 2001; copending Application Serial No. 09/721,885 filed November 24, 2000; [copending Application Serial No. 09/047, 146 filed March 24, 1998; copending Application Serial No. 09/157,778 filed September 21, 1998; copending Application Serial No. 09/274,265, filed March 22, 1999; International Application Serial No. PCT/US/99/06505 filed March 24, 1999, and published as WIPO WO 99/49411;] Application Serial No. 09/327,756 filed June 7, 1999; and International Application Serial No. PCT/US00/15624 filed June 7, 2000, published as WIPO WO 00/75856 A1; each said application being commonly owned by Assignee, Metrologic Instruments, Inc., of Blackwood, New Jersey, and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein in its entirety.

On Page 93, please delete the seventh full paragraph as follows:

[Fig. 1V5 is a schematic representation of a presentation-type bar code symbol reading system embodying the PLIIM-based subsystem of Fig. 1V1;]

AMENDMENT OF THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure to read as follows:

--ABSTRACT OF INVENTION

A planar laser illumination and imaging (PLIIM) based camera system capable of producing digital images with reduced levels of speckle-pattern noise. The PLIIM based camera system comprises a planar laser illumination array (PLIA) including a plurality of laser diodes for producing and projecting a planar laser illumination beam (PLIB), so as to illuminate an object as it is moving past said PLIIM based camera system. An image formation and detection (IFD) module is provided having a image detection array and imaging forming optics for providing the image detection array with a field of view (FOV). The PLIB and FOV are arranged in a coplanar relationship along the working range of the PLIIM based camera system so that the PLIB illuminates primarily within the FOV of the IFD module. A speckle-pattern noise reduction subsystem is integrated with the PLIA, for reducing the temporal-coherence of said planar laser illumination beam (PLIB) before the PLIB illuminates a target object. The